



Oral History Collections

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park has five oral history collections. The majority of the Hensley Settlement Collection was created from 1960-1970. The 50th Anniversary, Pre-Park Community, Employee, and Job Corps Collections have been gathered in the past six years. All interviews are available, either on CD or in transcript form. Contact Martha Wiley at (606) 246-1051 or Martha.Wiley@nps.gov.

Hensley Settlement Collection (1960-1970, 2010-11)

This collection contains the narratives of residents of Hensley Settlement, collected soon after the park was established. The topics covered include the lifestyles and buildings of Hensley.

Sherman Hensley	Wallace and Stella Hensley
Herbert Hensley	Park Hensley
Gilbert Hensley	Lige Gibbons
Nancy Gibbons	Jess Gibbons
Dorothy Greene Muncey (Gibbons descendent)	Hazel Thomas (teacher)
Herbert Thompson (teacher)	Hillary Wilder (teacher)
Anna Scott Hensley (2010)	Nancy Gibbons Taylor (2011)

50th Anniversary Collection (2008-2010)

This collection contains the narratives of people who were instrumental in creating and/or dedicating the park. Topics covered include planning of the 1959 dedication; working with both President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Vice President Richard Nixon; gathering support for the park on a regional level.

Albert Earle	Betty Hayes
Harry Hoe	Marvin Mayhall
Ernest Mike	

Pre-Park Community Collection (2008 – present)

This collection contains the stories of people who either lived or worked in places that became part of the national park. Topics covered include changes in the town of Cumberland Gap; having to move from family lands because of the coming of the park; living and working in places now owned by the park.

Jean Ausmus	Gary Burchett
Ann Estep	Clarence Lambdin
Ed Morrison	Betty Jo Goforth Pittman
Roger Rhodes/Joey Beason	Claude and Ann Seals
Freda VanBever	Rosalie Walker
Jack Skidmore	

Park Employee Collection (2008-present)

This collection contains the narratives of people who have worked for the park in various capacities over the past 50 years. The topics covered include the Job Corps, interpretive activities at Hensley in the 1980s, working at the park in the 1950s, building the tunnel, and working in facility management, interpretation, and law enforcement over the years.

Richard Beeler
Fred Branham
Charles Chadwell
Ann Justice (husband Glenn)
Gary Ramsey
James Thomas
Hershel Whitaker
David Robinson (restricted)

Fred Boyles
William Carter
Virginia Huff
Janice Miracle
Tom Shattuck (concession)
Carlie Thompson
Jack Skidmore
Mark Woods

Job Corps Collection (2014 – present)

This collection consists of the narratives of former staff and corpsmen of the Cumberland Gap Job Corps Center, which was in existence from 1965-1969. The topics covered include recruitment, relations with the surrounding area, and work done in the park.

Wilma Johnson Rose
A. Wayne Bishop
Sonny Potter Short

Delmar Robinson
Shirley Howard
Margaret Orr Simmons